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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/843,495	04/25/2001	Ezhilan Narasimhan	SUN-P6114-MEG	9277
28422	7590	11/17/2004	EXAMINER	
HOYT A. FLEMING III P.O. BOX 140678 BOISE, ID 83714			JACOBS, LASHONDA T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2157	

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/843,495

Applicant(s)

NARASIMHAN ET AL.

Examiner

LaShonda T Jacobs

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 September 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This is a Final Office Action in response to Applicants' Amendment filed on September 27, 2004. Claims 1 and 20-22 have been amended. Claims 1-24 are presented for further examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hare et al (hereinafter "Hare", U.S. Publication No. 2002/0046053) in view of Knudsen et al (hereinafter, "Knudsen", U.S. Patent No. 5,596,752).

As per claim 1, Hare discloses a method of generating a function, the function for assessing a parameter, the parameter method comprising:

- displaying a field for receiving a rule on a computer (paragraph 0026);
- entering a rule into the computer (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- transmitting the rule to a server (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- storing the rule on the server (paragraphs 0026-0027); and
- generating a function for assessing the parameter (paragraph 0043-0044).

However, Hare does not explicitly disclose:

- the rule including the parameter, a parameter operator and a parameter value.

Knudsen discloses a system for creating, editing, displaying and executing rule based programming language rules including:

- the rule including the parameter, a parameter operator and a parameter value (abstract, col. 5, lines 5-15, col. 7, lines 29-39, col. 9, lines 41-47, col. 19, lines 29-67, col. 20 lines 1-17 and col. 22, lines 22-45).

Given the teaching of Knudsen, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Hare by identifying parameters of data that is inputted by user in order to execute rule conditions according to the parameters and return the results of the rule conditions in a timely and efficient and manner.

As per claim 2, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of entering the rule includes entering the rule into a browser running on the computer (paragraph 0033).

As per claim 3, Hare discloses:

- wherein entering the rule includes entering a Java equation (paragraph 0059).

As per claim 4, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of entering a rule includes entering a PL/SQL equation (paragraph 0059).

As per claim 5, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of entering the rule includes entering a Basic equation (paragraph 0059).

As per claim 6, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of entering the rule includes entering a Virtual Basic equation (paragraph 0059).

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As per claim 7, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of transmitting the rule to the server includes transmitting the criterion rule over the Internet (paragraphs 0026-0027 and 0039).

As per claim 8, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of generating the function includes generating a Java function (paragraph 0059).

As per claim 9, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of generating the function includes generating a PL/SQL function (paragraph 0059).

As per claim 10, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of generating the function includes generating a Basic function. (paragraph 0059)

As per claim 11, Hare further discloses:

- verifying that the function is valid (paragraphs 0055-0056).

As per claim 12, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of verifying that the function is valid includes running the function through a syntax checker (paragraphs 0055-0056).

As per claim 13, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of verifying that the function is valid includes compiling the function and determining if the function compiled without generating an error (paragraphs 0055-0056).

As per claim 14, Hare discloses:

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- wherein the act of verifying that the function is valid includes compiling the function, determining if compiling the function generated an error, and if compiling the function generated an error, then displaying a screen on the computer that allows editing of the criterion rule (paragraphs 0025-0027, 0039 and 0055-0056).

As per claim 15, Hare further discloses:

- entering a the parameter into the computer (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- transmitting the parameter to the server (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- generating an assessment of the parameter (paragraphs 0043-0044);
- transmitting the assessment from the server to the computer (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- and
- displaying the assessment on the computer (paragraphs 0026-0027).

As per claim 16, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of entering the parameter includes entering the parameter into a browser (paragraph 0033).

As per claim 17, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of transmitting the parameter to the server includes transmitting the criterion over the Internet (paragraphs 0026-0027 and 0039).

As per claim 18, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of generating the assessment includes executing the function (paragraphs 0043-0044).

As per claim 19, Hare discloses:

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- wherein the act of transmitting the assessment from the server to the computer includes transmitting the assessment over the Internet (paragraphs 00026-0027, 0050 and 0055-0056).

As per claim 20, Hare discloses a program storage device containing instructions that when executed by a computer performs the following acts:

- display a field for receiving a rule (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- transmit a rule to a server (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- displaying a field for receiving a parameter (paragraphs 0026-0027); and
- display an assessment (paragraph 0055-0056).

However, Hare does not explicitly disclose:

- the rule including the parameter, a parameter operator and a parameter value.

Knudsen discloses a system for creating, editing, displaying and executing rule based programming language rules including:

- the rule including the parameter, a parameter operator and a parameter value (abstract, col. 5, lines 5-15, col. 7, lines 29-39, col. 9, lines 41-47, col. 19, lines 29-67 , col. 20 lines 1-17 and col. 22,lines 22-45).

Given the teaching of Knudsen, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Hare by identifying parameters of data that is inputted by user in order to execute rule conditions according to the parameters and return the results of the rule conditions in a timely and efficient and manner.

As per claim 21, Hare discloses a program storage device containing instructions that when executed by a server performs the following acts:

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- receive a rule from the computer (paragraphs 0026-0027); and
- generate a function for assessing a parameter (paragraphs 0043-0044).

However, Hare does not explicitly disclose:

- the rule including the parameter, a parameter operator and a parameter value.

Knudsen discloses a system for creating, editing, displaying and executing rule based programming language rules including:

- the rule including the parameter, a parameter operator and a parameter value (abstract, col. 5, lines 5-15, col. 7, lines 29-39, col. 9, lines 41-47, col. 19, lines 29-67, col. 20 lines 1-17 and col. 22, lines 22-45).

Given the teaching of Knudsen, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Hare by identifying parameters of data that is inputted by user in order to execute rule conditions according to the parameters and return the results of the rule conditions in a timely and efficient and manner.

As per claim 22, Hare discloses a method of displaying an assessment on a computer, the method comprising:

- displaying a field for receiving a parameter name on a computer (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- entering a parameter name into the computer (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- displaying a field for receiving a parameter type on the computer (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- entering a parameter type into the computer (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- displaying a field for receiving a rule on a computer (paragraphs 0026-0027);

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- entering a rule into the computer (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- transmitting the parameter name, the parameter type and the rule to a server (paragraph 0033);
- storing the parameter name, the parameter type and the rule on the server (paragraphs 0033, 0050 and 0055-0056);
- generating a function for assessing a parameter (paragraphs 0043-0044);
- verifying that the function is valid;
- if the function is not valid, then displaying a screen on the computer that allows editing of the rule;
- displaying a field for receiving the parameter (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- entering the parameter into the computer (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- transmitting the parameter to the server (paragraphs 0026-0027);
- generating an assessment of the parameter (paragraphs 0043-0044);
- transmitting the assessment from the server to the computer (paragraphs 0050, 0055-0056 and 0063); and
- displaying the assessment on the computer (paragraph 0055-0056).

However, Hare does not explicitly disclose:

- the rule including the parameter, a parameter operator and a parameter value.

Knudsen discloses a system for creating, editing, displaying and executing rule based programming language rules including:

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- the rule including the parameter, a parameter operator and a parameter value (abstract, col. 5, lines 5-15, col. 7, lines 29-39, col. 9, lines 41-47, col. 19, lines 29-67, col. 20 lines 1-17 and col. 22, lines 22-45).

Given the teaching of Knudsen, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Hare by identifying parameters of data that is inputted by user in order to execute rule conditions according to the parameters and return the results of the rule conditions in a timely and efficient and manner.

As per claim 23, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of entering the criterion type includes entering information that indicates that the criterion is a number (paragraphs 0026-0027 and 0039).

As per claim 24, Hare discloses:

- wherein the act of entering the criterion type includes entering information that indicates that the criterion is a string (paragraphs 0026-0027 and 0039).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,012,430 to Sakurai

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LaShonda T. Jacobs whose telephone number is 703-305-7494. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 703-308-7562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.


Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LaShonda T. Jacobs
Examiner
Art Unit 2157

ltj
November 3, 2004



SALEH NAJJAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER